

APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

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TITLE: METHOD FOR GENERATING MULTIMEDIA EVENTS USING
SHORT MESSAGE SERVICE

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METHOD FOR GENERATING MULTIMEDIA EVENTS USING SHORT MESSAGE SERVICE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

[1] The present invention relates to an advanced mobile communication system, and more particularly, to a method for generating multimedia events.

2. Background of the Related Art

[2] Generally, a Short Message Service (SMS) provides for the transfer of short messages between an application residing on a Mobile Station (MS) and an application within the network. A Short Message Service Center (hereafter, "SMC") and base stations (BS) provide a conduit for short messages between the application in the network and the application in the MS. The technologies related to the short message services (SMS) and the transmissions of the short messages in a wireless communication are based on the SMS-related standards, IS-637 and IS-95/J-STD-008, respectively, whose entire disclosure are hereby incorporated by reference.

[3] In a related art SMS, a SMC initially provides short messages to a BS via a core network, and the BS then sends those short messages to a mobile station on a paging channel, which is also a control channel. When the short messages are provided by the

SMC, a destination address and other service information are also provided together with the messages, and the mobile station can receive the short messages in an idle state.

[4] In transmitting technology of multimedia data such as sound and images, a simple image service (SIS) is used when adding the picture or animation images to the short message. When a short message is transmitted, the attached image files are also transmitted at the same time.

[5] The method for generating multimedia events based on the related art will now be described. Figure 1 illustrates a related art short message transmission system. The system includes mobile stations (MS) (1) that input text/voice messages and transmit, a short message service center (SMC) (4) that stores and transmits the messages received from the mobile stations (1), base stations (BS) (2) that function as an interface enabling the SMC to store and transmit the messages, and a home location register (HLR) (3) that stores the information by mobile stations. The BS-MS interface forms a route for short message (SM) transmissions between the mobile stations (MS) and the SMC, and the HLR-SMC interface is used to get the status information of the receiving mobile stations.

[6] Figure 2 illustrates sub-parameters of a SMS transport layer used for generating multimedia events according to the related art. The SMS is divided into a number of protocol layers: (1) the SMS teleservice layer, (2) the SMS transport layer, and (3) the SMS relay layer. The teleservice layer and transport layer are two upper layers used in the SMS, and the sub-parameters of each layer are illustrated in the Figure 2. The

transport layer provides information such as an originating address to enable the lower layer to send the messages properly, and the sub-parameters of the teleservice layer are stored in the Bearer Data field of the transport layer as shown in Figure 2.

[7] The sub-parameters of the teleservice layer are different depending on whether the teleservice layer transmission is sending or receiving the messages. In other words, the teleservice layer includes sub-parameters such as Submit Message when sending and Deliver Message when receiving. However, an User Data sub-parameter is always used to send the user's final data no matter whether the teleservice layer is sending or receiving the messages. Image data compressed by the SIS are stored and sent through the User Data sub-parameter.

[8] As described above, the related art short message transmission system and SMS have various disadvantages. Because large files such as sound or image files are attached to every short message subjected to be transmitted when transmitting multimedia events according to the related art, a large portion of the channel capacity is not used or wasted. Therefore, when the size of the file is too large, the file has to be divided into several pieces with appropriate smaller sizes so that each of the several pieces can be stored in the User Data and the message must be transmitted several times. Otherwise, the size of the file subjected to be transmitted at one time must be limited for a multimedia event.

[9] The above references are incorporated by reference herein where appropriate for appropriate teachings of additional or alternative details, features and/or technical background.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[10] An object of the invention is to substantially solve one or more of the above problems and/or disadvantages in a whole or in part and to provide at least the advantages described hereinafter.

[11] Another object of the present invention is to provide a method for generating multimedia events for a mobile communication system.

[12] Another object of the present invention is to provide a method for generating multimedia events for a communication system using a short message service.

[13] Another object of the present invention is to provide a method for operating a mobile communication system that generates multimedia events including images and sounds in a receiving mobile station using a short message service.

[14] Another object of the present invention is to provide a method for generating multimedia events by using the short message service in which a new teleservice option is added in the teleservice ID of the SMS transport layer.

[15] In order to achieve at least the above objects in a whole or in part and in accordance with the purposes of the invention, as embodied and broadly described, a

method for generating multimedia events by using the SMS in a mobile communication system is provided that includes selecting a multimedia event subjected to be transmitted to a receiving mobile station by an originating mobile station, transmitting an index corresponding to the selected event and an identification number of the receiving mobile station from the originating mobile station to a short message service center (SMC), checking whether the receiving mobile station already contains data corresponding to the selected event by the short message service center (SMC) using a database accessed by the SMC, and transmitting only the index corresponding to the selected event from the short message service center (SMC) to the receiving mobile station if the receiving mobile station already contains the data.

[16] In order to achieve at least the above objects in a whole or in part and in accordance with the purposes of the invention, as embodied and broadly described, a method of generating multimedia events using a short message service in a mobile communication system, including receiving an index corresponding to a multimedia event selected by an originating mobile station and an identification number of a receiving mobile station from the originating mobile station, checking whether the receiving mobile station already contains data corresponding to the index using a short message service center, and transmitting the index to the receiving mobile station if the receiving mobile station already contains the data.

[17] Additional advantages, objects, and features of the invention will be set forth in part in the description which follows and in part will become apparent to those having ordinary skill in the art upon examination of the following or may be learned from practice of the invention. The objects and advantages of the invention may be realized and attained as particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[18] The invention will be described in detail with reference to the following drawings in which like reference numerals refer to like elements wherein:

[19] Figure 1 illustrates a related art short message transmission system;

[20] Figure 2 illustrates sub-parameters of a SMS transport layer used for generating multimedia events according to the related art;

[21] Figure 3 is a diagram that illustrates a preferred embodiment of parameters of a SMS transport layer used for generating multimedia events according to the present invention;

[22] Figure 4 is a flow chart that illustrates a preferred embodiment of a method for generating multimedia events using SMS according to the present invention; and

[23] Figure 5 is a diagram that illustrates parameters of a SMS transport layer used for generating multimedia events according to a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[24] Figure 3 is a diagram that illustrates a preferred embodiment of sub-parameters of a SMS transport layer used for generating multimedia events according to the present invention that can be used, for example, in a mobile communication system. As shown in Figure 3, a new teleservice ID is preferably added to a Teleservice Identifier sub-parameter of the SMS transport layer. Five teleservices are currently supported by TIA/EIA-41-D including: (1) IS-91 Extended Protocol Enhanced Service, (2) Wireless Paging Teleservice, (3) Wireless Messaging Teleservice, (4) Voice Mail Notification or Voice Messaging Teleservice, and (5) Wireless Application Protocol. The entire disclosure of the TIA/EIA-41-D is hereby incorporated by reference. The preferred embodiment of the present invention shown in Figure 3 adds a new teleservice called Multimedia Teleservice to the supported services in the Teleservice Identifier sub-parameter. The title of the additional service, "Multimedia Teleservice" indicates that the contents of the SMS are related to the multimedia events or their corresponding data, and the multimedia events or the corresponding data are preferably retained in the SMC. The SMC preferably assigns a serial number to every multimedia event and shares the serial number information with all other mobile stations. In addition, each mobile station preferably stores a given amount of the multimedia data in cache-memory or the like, and a database regarding to the index of the stored multimedia data is retained in the SMC.

[25] Figure 4 is a flow chart that shows a preferred embodiment of a method for generating the multimedia events using the SMS according to the present invention. After a process begins, an originating mobile station selects a multimedia event to be subjected to transmission to a receiving mobile station (S1). Then, an index corresponding to the selected event and an identification number of the receiving mobile station are transmitted from the originating MS to the short message service center (SMC) (S2). The SMC checks whether the receiving mobile station already contains the data corresponding to the selected multimedia event preferably by using a database stored inside of the SMC (S3).

[26] If the SMC determines the receiving MS has the data corresponding to the selected multimedia event, the SMC sends only the index of the selected multimedia event to the receiving mobile station (S4). Otherwise, both of the index and data corresponding to the selected multimedia event are preferably sent to the receiving mobile station by using the SMS (S5). Thereafter, the SMC determines whether the SMS transmission of the data is completed (S6). If it is determined by the SMC that the data transmissions are successfully completed in step S6, the SMC preferably indicates in the receiving mobile station that the corresponding data has been transmitted (S7) and also indicates in the SMC that the receiving mobile station now contains the data corresponding to the index (S8). However, if it is determined by the SMC that the transmission is not completed in step S6, steps S3 to S8 are preferably repeated again. After transmission of the index to the receiving MS (S4) or after the notification in the SMC the receiving MS has received

at least the data corresponding to the selected multimedia event (S8), the method preferably ends or another multimedia event can be processed.

[27] Figure 5 is a diagram that illustrates a preferred embodiment of sub-parameters of a SMS transport layer used for generating multimedia events according to the present invention. As shown in the detailed sub-parameters of the SMS transport layer of Figure 5, the delivery of the index and data of a multimedia event is preferably achieved in the User Data field of the teleservice layer. Customization is necessary in order to use the sub-parameters of the "User Data" according to the preferred embodiment of Figure 5: a first byte of a CHARi field represents a total number of the packets required to send the event data, a second byte represents the number of the current packet, a third byte represents a current data index, a fourth byte represents a type of the event (e.g., picture/animation images, sound, or voice), and the fifth and higher (5,6,7,...) bytes are for the actual data corresponding to the selected multimedia event. However, the present invention is not intended to be so limited for example, the control and data positions could be modified or other control data could be used.

[28] When the originating mobile station sends the multimedia event to the SMC, preferably the Current Data Index of the CHARi field is set to the index of the event to be subjected to be transmitted, and others (e.g., Total Number of Packets, Current Packet Number, Event Type, and Data) are set to 0x00. Thus, there is no data set for Data in the CHARi field yet. Subsequently, the message is sent to the SMC after the Teleservice Identifier in the transport layer is set to Multimedia Teleservice.

[29] On the other hand, when the multimedia event is sent to the receiving mobile station from the SMC, the SMC preferably checks whether the receiving mobile station already contains the data corresponding to the index using the database in the SMS. If it does, the SMC preferably sends the SMS Deliver Message to the receiving mobile station after copying User Data in SMS Submit Message to User Data in Deliver Message. Otherwise, the event data is divided and transmitted to the mobile station in the Data field in the CHARI.

[30] As described above, preferred embodiment of a method and an apparatus for generating multimedia events using a short message service in a communication system have various advantages. According to preferred embodiments of the present invention a transmission occurs in a mobile communication system only when there is corresponding data to be subjected to transmission to the receiving mobile station, so the channel capacity can be enhanced, and the transmitting time can be reduced. Further, preferred embodiments according to the present invention can be accomplished by a minor modifications such as a modification of the current software, without any conflicts with the SMS. Methods for generating multimedia events according to the preferred embodiments can be applied not only to images, but also sound, voice, and many others so that the transmission efficiency (e.g., transmission speed and capacity are increased or transmission time can be reduced) of data using indexing and cacheing can be enhanced.

[31] The foregoing embodiments and advantages are merely exemplary and are not to be construed as limiting the present invention. The present teaching can be readily applied to other types of apparatuses. The description of the present invention is intended to be illustrative, and not to limit the scope of the claims. Many alternatives, modifications, and variations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. In the claims, means-plus-function clauses are intended to cover the structures described herein as performing the recited function and not only structural equivalents but also equivalent structures.